

Remarks

The specification has been amended to add section headings. Withdrawal of the objection to the form of the specification is respectfully requested.

Claim 33 has been amended to depend from one claim. Withdrawal of the objection to claim 33 is respectfully requested.

Claims 20-38 were rejected as anticipated by DUXANS et al. ("Estimation of GMM in voice conversion including unaligned data." Proceedings of Eurospeech 2003 Conference, September 2003, 861-864.) Claim 20 has been amended to include subject matter from claims 21-22, which have been canceled, and claim 36 has been amended to include corresponding subject matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

DUXANS et al. do not disclose analyzing the source and target speaker voice samples to produce the information relating to the spectral envelope in the form of cepstral coefficients. By contrast, DUXANS et al. disclose using Line Spectrum Frequencies (LSF) instead of cepstral coefficients (Figure 1, sections 2 and 4. There is no suggestion in this reference to use the claimed cepstral coefficients, and thus the claims avoid the rejection under §102.

As explained in paragraph 0075 of the published application, representing the spectral envelope in the form of the cepstral

coefficients allows reproducing the properties of the human ear as faithfully as possible. This advantage is not disclosed or suggested by DUXANS et al.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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